

15th January 2021



Dear Parents,

I hope that you are all safe and well and beginning to find a routine with home learning, working from home and lockdown! In school we are beginning to see how our new normal will look and how we will be able to fully support all of our pupils regardless of where they are learning. I do miss everyone but I have been able to say hello during the morning check ins for some classes. Teachers also send me home learning that they are particularly impressed with, just as they would send children to show me their work in school!

### Key Workers

As the pandemic continues to increase in severity we are once again trying to reduce numbers in school. If your situation changes or you work part time and are able to keep your child at home for part of the week, please let us know. We are here to support our key workers, however we are also mindful of any ways in which we can reduce risk. Thank you for all your support.

### External resources to help with Home-Learning

Blue Peter have now got a YouTube page where your child can watch videos on arts and crafts, baking, how to, world record breaking ideas and much more! <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter>

### Teach Your Monster to Read App

FREE to download until Sunday 17th January. We highly recommend this Government approved app for teaching children phonics, spelling and sentence reading. It is aimed at children in their first stages of reading (Acorns, Year 1 & 2) or older children that need a bit more practice. It is always free to use from a desktop computer or laptop but the app usually has a charge. However, until Sunday there will be no charge for downloading the app. Once it is downloaded, even after the free downloadable period ends, the app will carry on being free to use.

### Learning Time

For Primary School children the expectation is "an average of 3 hours" in KS1—age dependent and 4 hours for KS2. We are setting work appropriate to this.

However, because everyone has different circumstances the timetable for this is fairly flexible. Please take your lead from your individual class teacher for the fine detail. Remember that the children in school are also being given plenty of breaks and we do not expect your child to be sitting at a table for 4 hours solid.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel that you need support in managing the learning time for your child.



### Home-learning this week

Well done everyone learning from home. We do not underestimate how challenging this is for parents, please remember that you can call if you are having any difficulties.

### Tapestry - Year 1 & 2 parents

From Monday 18th January all lessons and resources will be uploaded to Tapestry only. Please make sure you have activated your account using the link on the email that has been sent to you this week. A step by step guide on how to activate your account has also been emailed to you. If you have not received an activation email, please check your spam folder. We can add additional parents (as long as they have parental responsibility) if you would like. The benefits of Tapestry are that your child's learning will be stored in their own electronic portfolio which can be linked to the national curriculum by the class teacher and be used to help with our assessment of your child. Please contact the school office if you have any questions

### Woodpeckers After School Club



Our After School Care Club, Woodpeckers, will continue to run from Monday to Thursday from 3:15 to 5:30 and will be supervised by school staff. Please see our website for details or call the school office. To begin with we are offering after school care only but hope to extend this to a Breakfast Club in near the future.

***At present this facility is only available to children who are attending school during the day.***

### Bits and Bobs

#### FSM

If your child is at home we will be moving to using vouchers from 18th January. If you are not contacted please call the school office. If you think that you may now be eligible for Free School Meals because your income or situation has changed please call the school office and we will help you to apply.

#### Foodbank vouchers

We are able to issue Food Bank vouchers. Please let us know if this is something that you need. This is completely confidential.

#### General dates

#### INSET days for this Academic Year

Monday 22nd February

Monday 19th April

#### Half Term / End of Term Holidays 2020/21

Half Term February 15th—19th 2021

End of Term Thursday 1st April 2021

Easter Holidays April 2nd—16th 2021

Half Term Monday 31st May—4th June 2021

End of Term Friday 23rd July 2021



This week's winning  
house is .....

**Brewhurst**

## ***CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A CELEBRATION CERTIFICATE***

**Oak Class** Alexander for Dedication and Megan for perseverance

**Willow Class** Sonny for Perseverance and Phoebe for Independence

**Rowan Class** Elouise for Respect and Sofia for Commitment

**Sycamore Class** Lilia for Responsibility and Lillie for Achievement

**Mulberry Class** Billy for Attitude and Tate for Commitment

**Chestnut Class** Tyler - Conscientiousness and Timothy - Consistency